

What is claimed is:

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1. A reproduction apparatus for reproducing video or audio information recorded in a storage medium, comprising:

5 encryption detection means for detecting whether the video or audio information recorded in said storage medium is encrypted or not in accordance with a predetermined encryption system;

10 watermark detection means for detecting a watermark information indicative of a copy management information, including at least copy prohibition which is superimposed onto the video or audio information, in a case where the video or audio information recorded in said storage medium is not encrypted in accordance with the predetermined encryption system; and

15 a reproduction restricting means for stopping reproduction of the video or audio information, when any of the copy management information is detected upon a detection result by said watermark detection means in a case where the video or audio information recorded in said storage medium is not encrypted in accordance with the predetermined encryption system.

20 2. A reproduction apparatus as defined in the claim 1, further including:

25 an information analysis means for analyzing whether the video or audio information recorded in said storage medium is a regular video or audio information or not, from which the watermark can be detected in the watermark detection circuit, in the case where the video or audio information recorded in said storage medium is not encrypted in accordance with the predetermined encryption system, wherein

30 said reproduction restricting means stops the reproduction of the video or audio information, also when it is not decided to be the regular video or audio information from which the

watermark can be detected, in the case where the video or audio information recorded in said storage medium is not encrypted in accordance with the predetermined encryption system.

3. A decoding apparatus, being inputted with coded video or audio information, for decoding the video or audio information so as to be outputted, comprising:

a decryption means for restoring an original video or audio information which is coded by decrypting an input code data which is encrypted;

10 a watermark detection means for detecting a watermark information indicative of a copy management information, including at least copy prohibition which is superimposed onto the video or audio information, in case of decoding the coded video or audio information which is inputted, directly without using
15 said decryption means;

a reproduction restricting means for stopping reproduction of the video or audio information, when any copy management information is detected upon a detection result by said watermark detection means, in case of decoding the coded video or audio
20 information which is inputted, directly without using said decryption means.

4. A reproduction apparatus as defined in the claim 1, further including:

a medium and format deciding means for deciding a kind from
25 a plurality of storage mediums and a recording format thereof, wherein,

said encryption detection means detects whether the data on said medium is encrypted or not in accordance with a encryption system which is predetermined for each of the kinds of said
30 plurality of storage mediums and the recording format thereon, and,

said reproduction restricting means stops reproduction of the video or audio information when any of the copy management information is detected upon detection result by said watermark detection means, in case that the video and audio information is not encrypted in accordance with an encryption system which is predetermined for each of the kinds of said plurality of storage mediums and the recording format thereon.

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10 5. A decoding apparatus, being inputted with coded video or audio information, for decoding the video or audio information so as to be outputted, comprising:

a decryption means for restoring an original video or audio information which is coded by decrypting an input code data which is encrypted;

15 an AKE means for conducting an authentication between a supply device of the input code data and key exchange necessary for decryption;

20 a watermark detection means for detecting a watermark information indicative of a copy management information, including at least copy prohibition which is superimposed onto the video or audio information, if the decoding is started under a condition where the authentication and the key exchange are not yet established in said AKE means;

25 a reproduction restricting means for stopping reproduction of the video or audio information, when any of the copy management information is detected upon a detection result by said watermark detection means, if the decoding is started under a condition where the authentication and the key exchange are not yet established in said AKE means.

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